

REMARKS

With entry of this preliminary amendment, claims 15-58 are pending in this application. Applicants respectfully submit that these claims are supported by the specification, as originally filed, and are patentable over the prior art of record. As an initial matter, and in anticipation that the application will be subject to a restriction requirement similar to that issued in the parent application, Applicants hereby elect Species 15 in Figs. 82-88 on which at least independent claims 15, 27, and 43 read.

Thus, it is respectfully submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. Should the Examiner have any questions or comments, he is invited to call the undersigned at (949) 567-2300.

Respectfully submitted,

LYON & LYON

Dated: October 10, 2001

By: 

Michael J. Bolan
Reg. No. 42,339
Attorneys for Applicants

MJB/dmd
633 W. Fifth Street, Suite 4700
Los Angeles, California 90071
Tel.: (949) 567-2300 or (213) 489-1600